

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 INT-08 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 RSR-01 /105 W

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R 160831Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6079

INFO COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CALIF

COMPACREP GUAM TTPI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 10519

DEPARTMENT PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA AND OSN

COMTWELVE FOR AMB WILLIAMS

CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI PASS STATUS LNO SAIPAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, TQ

SUBJ: JAPAN-MICRONESIA ASSOCIATION

REF: A. TOKYO 9597

B. STATE 157289

1. SUMMARY: FONOFF DISCUSSED FOUNDING JAPAN-MICRONESIA ASSOCIATION WITH PROSPECTIVE LEADER, DISCOURAGING ANY ACTION NOW WHILE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS IN DELICATE STAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. FONOFF (FIRST NA DIV - MZMATA) INFORMED EMBASSY THAT ON AUGUST 15 HE DISCUSSED PROBLEMS OF FOUNDING JAPAN-MICRONESIA ASSOCIATION WITH SADA O KOFUKADA, A DIRECTOR OF ASIA CENTER OF JAPAN AND ONE OF LEADERS OF PROSPECTIVE ASSOCIATION. NUMATA POINTED OUT POLITICAL FACETS OF ASSOCIATION. HE TOLD KOFUKADA THAT ESPECIALLY DURING DELICATE TRUST TERRITORY STATUS NEGOTIATIONS DESPITE FOUNDERS' GOOD, NON-POLITICAL INTENTIONS, FOUNDING ASSOCIATION COULD HAVE POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS ADVERSE TO

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OCIATION COULD HAVE POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS ADVERSE TO

JAPANESE INTERESTS. NUMATA CITED VARIETY OF POLITICAL INTEREST GROUPS IN MICRONESIA SOME OF WHOM MIGHT BE ATTRACTED TO A "NEBULOUS" JAPAN ALTERNATIVE AND WHO MIGHT USE EXISTENCE OF ASSOCIATION TO MAKE CLAIMS OF IMPORTANT SUPPORT IN JAPAN FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES. NUMATA SAID HE EXPLAINED TO KOOFUKADA THAT USG OFFICIALS IN MICRONESIA AND TOKYO WERE RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS POLITICAL ASPECTS OF JAPAN-MICRONESIA ASSOCIATION BECAUSE MATTER INVOLVED INTERNAL JAPANESE POLITICAL PROBLEMS. NUMATA BELIEVES KOOFUKADA UNDERSTANDS CLEARER AT LEAST SOME OF THE POLITICAL REASONS FOR NOT RPT NOT FOUNDING ASSOCIATION NOW. AFTER KOOFUKADA RELATES HIS CONVERSATION TO COLLEAGUES, NUMATA EXPECTS FOUNDERS TO BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH HIM.

3. COMMENT: FONOFF HAD BEEN RELUCTANT TO INITIATE FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH FOUNDERS BECAUSE OF DELICACY OF USG POSITION AND GOJ WISH TO AVOID TOO PROMINENT OR AGGRESSIVE A POSTURE WHICH COULD HAVE EASILY BEEN COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. KOOFUKADA'S CALL AT FONOFF PROVIDED OPENING FOR NUMATA'S DISCOURAGING FORMATION OF ASSOCIATION FOR SECOND TIME. NUMATA BELIEVES HIS MEETINGS WITH FOUNDERS HAVE AT LEAST STALLED THEM AND THAT FOUNDERS WOULD FIRST DISCUSS FURTHER PLANS BEFORE PROCEEDING. THEREFORE, ALTHOUGH SITUATION NOT AS FIRM AS WE WOULD LIKE, WE CONSIDER IT UNDER CONTROL FOR TIME BEING. SHOESMITH

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